

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

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TAGS:PFOR, ZA, US

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER MWAANGA'S MEETING WITH THE
SECRETARY

1. IN TELECON EVENING APRIL 13 BETWEEN ZAMBIAN FOREIGN
MINISTER MWAANGA AND AF/E DIRECTOR COOTE, MWAANGA EXPRESSED
HIS GREAT DISAPPOINTMENT THAT MEETING WITH SECRETARY
SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 15 HAD TO BE CANCELLED BECAUSE OF
DEATH OF MWAANGA'S BROTHER IN AIRCRAFT CRASH, AND FUNERAL
SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 15. MWAANGA INDICATED THAT IN EARLIER
TELECON BETWEEN HIM AND PRESIDENT KAUNDA, PRESIDENT HAD
BEEN EQUALLY DISAPPOINTED THAT MEETING TO WHICH GRZ ATTACHED
GREAT IMPORTANCE HAD TO BE CANCELLED. MWAANGA SAID THAT
PRESIDENT MOST DESIROUS THAT MEETING BE RESCHEDULED AFTER
SECRETARY'S RETURN FROM FORTHCOMING TRIP TO MIDDLE EAST
AND THAT, IF SO, MWAANGA WOULD RETURN TO UNITED STATES
EXPRESSLY FOR SUCH MEETING. HE ALSO ASKED THAT COOTE
CONVEY HIS APOLOGIES TO SECRETARY.

2. COOTE TOLD MWAANGA THAT SECRETARY WOULD CERTAINLY
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UNDERSTAND THAT MEETING CANCELLED ONLY AS RESULT FAMILY

TRAGEDY AND THAT MWAANGA, AS SENIOR MEMBER HIS FAMILY,
HAD TO RETURN FOR FUNERAL. COOTE THEN INDICATED THAT WHILE
HE COULD NOT MAKE ADVANCE COMMITMENT FOR SECRETARY, HE
WOULD ENSURE THAT MWAANGA'S AND KAUNDA'S DESIRE THAT
MEETING BE RESCHEDULED WAS CONVEYED TO SECRETARY. RUSH

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